

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY. NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, THERE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TODAY.

>> WELCOME TO GOOD NEWS TODAY, THE PROGRAM WHERE YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND GOOD NEWS, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD.

>> I'M MARK TESKE, YOUR HOST FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING US. WE'VE GOT A GREAT PROGRAM TODAY, AND HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP. WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN WITH OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, AND THAT CONSISTS OF OUR SCRIPTURE READING, BEAUTIFUL SINGING, AND A BRIEF STUDY OF THAT SCRIPTURE. TODAY WE'LL BE LOOKING AT NUMBERS 22:22-23, WHERE WE READ ABOUT A DONKEY THAT WAS SMARTER THAN A MAN WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WISE. SO GET OUT YOUR BIBLES, TURN TO NUMBERS 22. I'LL MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A MOMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, TROY SPRADLIN WILL BE REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT MEN AND BABIES. JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US WITH SOME SOUND WORDS ABOUT THE ELUSIVE BUTTERFLY. JOE GUY JOINS US FROM THE PASTIME PORCH, AND HE'S GOT AN INTERESTING STORY ABOUT A TRAFFIC STOP. IN OUR FINAL SEGMENT, WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN: WERE INSECTS AND CRAWLING BUGS SPARED IN THE GREAT FLOOD? WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR BIBLES OPENED UP TO NUMBERS 22, WHERE WE READ BEGINNING AT VERSE 22, THEN THE LORD'S ANGER WAS AROUSED BECAUSE HE WENT, AND THE ANGEL OF THE LORD TOOK HIS STAND IN THE WAY AS AN ADVERSARY AGAINST HIM. AND HE WAS RIDING ON HIS DONKEY, AND HIS TWO SERVANTS WERE WITH HIM. NOW THE DONKEY SAW THE ANGEL OF THE LORD STANDING IN THE WAY WITH HIS DRAWN SWORD IN HIS HAND, AND THE DONKEY TURNED ASIDE OUT OF THE WAY AND WENT INTO THE FIELD. SO BALAAM STRUCK THE DONKEY TO HERD HER BACK ONTO THE ROAD.

>> (SINGING)

>> HERE IN THE BOOK OF NUMBERS, THE NATION OF ISRAEL IS IN THE WILDERNESS, AND THEY'RE GOING THROUGH, AND THE NATIONS THAT STAND IN THEIR WAY ARE BEING UTTERLY DEFEATED. THE KING OF MOAB HEARS ABOUT THIS, AND HE'S TERRIFIED. AND HE CALLS FOR BALAAM TO COME CURSE THE ISRAELITES FOR HIM. YOU SEE, BALAAM HAD SOME SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD. AND GOD SPOKE TO BALAAM AND TOLD HIM, DON'T GO TO THE KING OF MOAB. SO BALAAM SAID, NO, I'M NOT GOING TO DO IT AND SENT THE MESSENGERS AWAY. WELL, MORE MESSENGERS CAME A SECOND TIME AND PROMISED TO MAKE BALAAM VERY WEALTHY, SO BALAAM WAS, WELL, LET ME ASK GOD AGAIN, SEE IF HE'S GOING TO CHANGE HIS MIND, AS IF MORE MONEY WOULD CHANGE WHAT GOD THOUGHT ABOUT THE SITUATION. YOU SEE, GOD HAD ALREADY TOLD BALAAM HIS ANSWER. THIS TIME WHEN BALAAM ASKED, GOD RELUCTANTLY TOLD HIM HE COULD GO, BUT HE COULD ONLY SAY THE THINGS THAT GOD TOLD HIM TO SAY. YOU SEE, GOD WAS FRUSTRATED WITH BALAAM AND THIS WHOLE SITUATION. HE HAD TOLD HIM NO ALREADY. OH, BUT THERE'S A BUNCH MORE MONEY INVOLVED, MAYBE GOD'S GOING TO CHANGE HIS MIND. AND SO WE GET TO OUR TEXT THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT TODAY. SO BALAAM BEGINS ON HIS JOURNEY TO GO CURSE THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL ON BEHALF OF THE KING OF MOAB. AND AS HE'S ON THAT JOURNEY, RIDING ON HIS DONKEY, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD STOOD RIGHT THERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD WITH HIS SWORD DRAWN. THE DONKEY COULD SEE THE ANGEL OF THE LORD, BUT THE MEN, BALAAM AND THE

TWO SERVANTS WHO WERE WITH HIM, COULDN'T SEE THE ANGEL OF THE LORD. SO THE DONKEY, SEEING THE ANGEL OF THE LORD WITH HIS SWORD DRAWN, HE VEERED OFF THE ROAD AND WENT INTO THE FIELD. BALAAM DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS GOING ON, HE GOT ANGRY, AND HE BEAT THE DONKEY. THEY CONTINUED THEIR JOURNEY, AND THEY WENT THROUGH A NARROW PATH BETWEEN TWO WALLS. AND ONCE AGAIN, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD STOOD IN THE WAY. THE DONKEY COULD SEE HIM, BUT THE MEN COULDN'T SEE HIM. AND THE DONKEY STOPPED RIGHT THERE AND PUSHED UP AGAINST THE WALL AND PINNED BALAAM AGAINST THE WALL. SO ONCE AGAIN, HE BEAT THE DONKEY. THE PATH GOT EVEN NARROWER FURTHER DOWN SO THEY COULDN'T EVEN TURN AROUND. AND THE ANGEL APPEARED A THIRD TIME. BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ROOM TO TURN AROUND, THEY WERE WEDGED IN THERE, THE DONKEY JUST LAID DOWN IN PLACE. SO BALAAM BEAT THE DONKEY A THIRD TIME. THEN THE LORD PERFORMED A MIRACLE, AND THE DONKEY SPOKE TO BALAAM. THE DONKEY ASKED BALAAM WHY HE WAS BEING BEATEN. BALAAM SAID, IF I HAD MY SWORD, I WOULD HAVE KILLED YOU. THIS IS NOT YOUR BABY. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE OBEYING ME. AT THAT MOMENT, THE LORD OPENED BALAAM'S EYES, AND HE SAW THE ANGEL OF THE LORD, AND HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT HAD HAPPENED. THE ANGEL TOLD BALAAM AT THAT POINT IN TIME THAT THE JOURNEY HE WAS TAKING WAS PERVERSE, IT WAS WRONG, IT SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN DONE. THE APOSTLE PETER SHEDS SOME LIGHT FOR US ON THIS WHOLE SITUATION IN 2ND PETER 2:15, COMPARING OTHER PEOPLE TO BALAAM, SAYING, THEY HAVE FORSAKEN THE RIGHT WAY AND GONE ASTRAY, FOLLOWING THE WAY OF BALAAM, THE SON OF BEOR, WHO LOVED THE WAGES OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS. YOU SEE, THAT'S WHAT BALAAM WAS AFTER, THOSE WAGES OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS. HE WAS IN IT FOR THE MONEY. GOD ALLOWED BALAAM TO CONTINUE, TRIED TO WARN HIM SEVERAL DIFFERENT TIMES, BUT HE CONTINUED ON. AND HE WAS ONLY ALLOWED TO SPEAK WHAT THE ANGEL TOLD HIM TO SPEAK, NOTHING MORE. SO HE COULD ONLY SPEAK BLESSINGS UPON THE ISRAELITES AND WASN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO CURSE THEM LIKE THE KING OF MOAB WANTED HIM TO DO. SO YOU SEE, HE WAS DOING IT FOR THE MONEY, BUT HE WASN'T GIVING THE KING OF MOAB WHAT HE WANTED, AND THERE WAS GOING TO BE A RUB THAT HAPPENED LATER ON. SO WHAT DOES THE TALE OF A TALKING DONKEY HAVE TO DO WITH US? WELL, WE CAN SEE FIRST OFF THAT SOME PEOPLE WILL COMPROMISE WHAT IS RIGHT FOR MONEY. JUST LIKE BALAAM DID, JUST LIKE PETER WARNED WAS HAPPENING IN HIS DAY, SOME PEOPLE DO THAT TODAY. THEY VEER FROM THE TRUTH FOR MONEY. SOMETIMES IT'S MONEY IN THEIR POCKETS. SOMETIMES PEOPLE OR CONGREGATIONS WILL VEER FROM THE TRUTH BECAUSE UNLESS WE DO THAT, IT'S GOING TO HURT THE CONTRIBUTION. GOD'S NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE MONEY; HE'S WORRIED ABOUT US DOING WHAT IS RIGHT AT ALL TIMES. YOU SEE, SOMETIMES GOD ALLOWS US TO CONTINUE ALONG IN OUR ERROR; BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT HE LIKES IT. HE SOMETIMES PUTS UP WITH US; BUT WE DON'T ALWAYS SEE REALITY. WE REALIZE IT'S NEVER A GOOD IDEA TO FIGHT AGAINST GOD. HE IS SOVEREIGN. WE NEED TO OBEY HIM. AND THAT IS GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY. WELL, IT'S TIME TO HEAD OVER TO THE WORKSHOP, WHERE TROY SPRADLIN IS DOING SOME REPAIRS. TODAY HE'S REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT MEN AND BABIES.

>> THERE ARE NUMEROUS CONGREGATIONS OF THE LORD'S CHURCH SCATTERED ALL ACROSS THE GLOBE. IN FACT, SOME ESTIMATES SAY THAT THERE ARE AS MANY AS 40,000 CHURCHES OF CHRIST WORLDWIDE. AND INDEED, THERE'S A LOT OF EVIDENCE THAT EXISTS PROVING THAT THE CHURCH IS GROWING AND THRIVING IN MANY PLACES TODAY. AND THAT IS SO ENCOURAGING. BUT ON THE OTHER

SIDE OF THAT COIN, IT'S ALSO RATHER DISHEARTENING TO SEE SO MANY CONGREGATIONS THAT ARE DETERIORATING IN PLACES LIKE EUROPE AND EVEN HERE IN AMERICA. IT'S SAD THAT SOME CONGREGATIONS HAVE HAD TO CLOSE THEIR DOORS DUE TO SEVERE MEMBERSHIP DECLINE OR HAVING ALL DIED. NOW, SOME OF THOSE CLOSURES HAPPENED BECAUSE OF A RESULT OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES OR ECONOMIC COLLAPSE OF A COMMUNITY OR EVEN AN UNFORTUNATE CHURCH SPLIT. BUT THE MOST COMMON DENOMINATOR LEADING TO CONGREGATIONAL COLLAPSE IS APATHY; SPECIFICALLY, THE LACK OF EVANGELISM. YOU SEE, WHEN A CHURCH STOPS REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY WITH ACTIVE PERSONAL EVANGELISM, WELL, DECLINE IS SURELY GOING TO FOLLOW. THE CONGREGATION AT LAODICEA IN REVELATION CHAPTER 3 WAS GUILTY OF SUCH COMPLACENCY. JESUS ADMONISHED THEM, SAYING, I KNOW YOUR WORKS, THAT YOU ARE NEITHER COLD NOR HOT. I WISH YOU WERE COLD OR HOT. AS MANY AS I LOVE, I REBUKE AND CHASTEN. THEREFORE, BE ZEALOUS AND REPENT, CHAPTER 3 OF REVELATION. I PRAY THAT NO CONGREGATION OF THE LORD'S CHURCH TODAY RECEIVES SUCH A REPRIMAND. SO LET'S ALL PRAY FERVENTLY FOR EVERY CHURCH OF CHRIST TO BE FAITHFUL AND SOUND AND ALWAYS EVANGELISTIC. NOW, CONCERNING THIS SAME THOUGHT, I RECENTLY HEARD A POWERFUL STATEMENT ABOUT HOW ONE MIGHT IDENTIFY A STRONG, HEALTHY CONGREGATION. IT WAS SAID THAT THE SIGNS OF A HEALTHY CONGREGATION ARE SINGING MEN AND CRYING BABIES. AND THAT IS A GREAT WAY OF REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT A CONGREGATION OF THE LORD'S CHURCH SHOULD LOOK LIKE. YOU SEE, IT MEANS THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN ELEMENTS PRESENT THAT ENSURE THE CONTINUAL PROPAGATION OF THE LORD'S CHURCH. IT MEANS THAT HIS DISCIPLES ARE PUTTING INTO PRACTICE EXACTLY WHAT JESUS SAID IN MATTHEW 28:20, ALL THE THINGS THAT HE'S COMMANDED US. IT IS INDEED A GOOD DESCRIPTION OF WHAT CONSTITUTES A GROWING, THRIVING CHURCH OF OUR LORD, BECAUSE FIRST OF ALL, A CHURCH THAT HAS SINGING MEN IS AN INDICATION OF EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM AND TEACHING. AND THIS IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT POINT, BECAUSE SADLY, FOR MANY PLACES AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING RIGHT HERE IN AMERICA, THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE FOR THE CHURCH IS A LACK OF MEN AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP. YOU SEE, FOR MEN TO BE SINGING IMPLIES THAT NOT ONLY ARE MALES PRESENT IN THE CHURCH, FULFILLING THE ROLES THAT GOD HAS APPOINTED TO THEM, BUT IT ALSO MEANS THAT THEY UNDERSTAND PASSAGES LIKE 1ST CORINTHIANS 14:15, I WILL SING WITH THE SPIRIT AND I WILL ALSO SING WITH UNDERSTANDING. IT'S EVIDENCE THAT THEY'VE BEEN TAUGHT THE PRECEPTS OF SCRIPTURAL WORSHIP AND ARE MANIFESTING THEIR APPRECIATION TOWARDS GOD AND THEIR CREATOR. THEY ARE NOT ENTRAPPED BY WORLDLY DISTRACTIONS, NOR AFRAID TO EXHIBIT THEIR FAITH IN A GODLY MANNER. SO SINGING MEN HAVE REACHED THE POTENTIAL THAT GOD INTENDED FOR HIS CREATION AND ARE SERVING HIM WITH ALL THEIR HEART, JUST AS IT SAYS IN ECCLESIASTES 12:13 AND MARK 12:29-31. SECONDLY, A CONGREGATION WITH CRYING BABIES IS A SURE SIGN OF GROWTH. IT MEANS THAT YOUNG FAMILIES ARE SITTING IN THE PEWS AND RAISING UP THEIR CHILDREN IN THE NURTURE AND ADMONITION OF THE LORD, SAYS EPHESIANS 6:4. IT'S SOMEWHAT IRONIC THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO COMPLAIN ABOUT NOISY CHILDREN IN SERVICES WHILE IN REALITY, THEY SHOULD BE REJOICING. INSTEAD OF A MEMBERSHIP STAGNATING AND DECLINING INTO OBLIVION, WELL, INSTEAD, THERE'S POTENTIAL FOR PERPETUITY. CHURCHES WITH CHILDREN HAVE THE BLESSED OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH AND CULTIVATE PRECIOUS SOULS INTO FUTURE DISCIPLES AND FAITHFUL LEADERS WHO WILL IN TURN DO THE SAME WHEN THEIR TIME ARRIVES,

ACCORDING TO 2ND TIMOTHY 2:2. YOU SEE, CRYING BABIES MEANS THEY'RE PRESENT AMONG THE CHURCH, THEY'RE HEARING AND OBSERVING HOW CHRISTIANS THINK AND WALK AND TALK AND INTERACT WITH ONE ANOTHER. IT SHAPES THEIR SOCIAL SKILLS, THEIR MANNER OF REASONING, AND GIVES THEM UNDERSTANDING OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS OF THEIR LIVES, AND THAT IS SALVATION. SO I THANK GOD FOR CHURCHES OF CHRIST THAT HAVE SINGING MEN AND MANY CRYING BABIES.

>> THANKS, TROY. WE NEED MORE HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS AROUND THE WORLD. IT'S TIME TO GRAB SOME PAPER AND SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH, AND YOU CAN WRITE DOWN OUR CONTACT INFORMATION. IF YOU HAVEN'T ENROLLED IN OUR FREE BIBLE COURSE, GET STARTED. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE. ALL OF OUR COURSES ARE GIVEN FREE OF CHARGE, WE WILL NEVER TRY TO SELL YOU ANYTHING, AND WE WON'T PESTER YOU WITH SOLICITATIONS. JIM DEARMAN IS GOING TO JOIN US IN JUST A MOMENT.

>> YOU MAY HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT GOOD NEWS TODAY. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FREE BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS, PLEASE CONTACT US. OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. AGAIN, THAT'S GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. YOU MAY PREFER TO E-MAIL US AT GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. THAT'S GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. OR CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-877-384-7221. THAT'S 1-877-384-7221. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. HEARING FROM OUR AUDIENCE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TO US.

>> THE EASIEST WAY TO ENROLL IN OUR BIBLE COURSE IS ON OUR WEBSITE AT GNTTV.ORG. JUST CLICK WHERE IT SAYS BIBLE COURSE, FILL OUT THE INFORMATION, AND WE'LL MAIL IT TO YOU. YOU CAN ALSO ENJOY US ON TRUTH.FM, WHICH HAS A CHANNEL THAT'S DEDICATED TO GOOD NEWS TODAY. YOU'LL HEAR PROGRAMS FROM ALL DIFFERENT ERAS PLAYING THERE. IN ADDITION, THEY HAVE SEVERAL OTHER CHANNELS THAT ALL CONTAIN EXCELLENT BIBLE TEACHING. GIVE THEM A LISTEN AT TRUTH.FM. NOW HERE'S JIM DEARMAN WITH SOME SOUND WORDS FOR US ABOUT THE ELUSIVE BUTTERFLY.

>> HAPPINESS IS AS A BUTTERFLY, WHICH WHEN PURSUED IS ALWAYS BEYOND OUR GRASP, BUT WHICH IF YOU WILL SIT DOWN QUIETLY, MAY ALIGHT UPON YOU. HAWTHORNE WROTE THOSE WORDS. AND TO ME, THEY CONJURE UP A VISION OF PEOPLE BUSILY SCURRYING ABOUT IN 100 DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS, FRANTICALLY LOOKING FOR THIS THING CALLED HAPPINESS; YET I SEE THE FRUSTRATION ON THEIR FACES AS THEY NEVER SEEM TO FIND IT BECAUSE THEY ARE LOOKING FOR IT IN THE WRONG PLACES AS THEY TRY TO ACQUIRE AS MUCH AS THEY CAN OF THIS WORLD'S POSSESSIONS TO BRING CONTENTMENT INTO THEIR LIVES. THE THING ALL OF US NEED TO REALIZE IS THAT, AS PAUL SAID, GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT IS GREAT GAIN. YOU KNOW, IF WE HEEDED THOSE INSPIRED WORDS, IT WOULD PUT AN END TO THE FRANTIC SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS IN THE WORLD TODAY, CHASING THAT ELUSIVE BUTTERFLY.

>> IF WE KEEP TRYING TO CATCH THE WRONG THING, WE'LL NEVER CATCH THE RIGHT THING. THANKS, JIM. WHY NOT KEEP THE INFLUENCE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY HELPING YOU EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK? YOU CAN WATCH OUR PROGRAMS ON DEMAND IN SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS. WE HAVE APPS FOR YOUR PHONE, TELEVISION, OR TABLET. ALL OF THEM ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE APP STORE

FREE OF CHARGE. YOU CAN SEE ENTIRE PROGRAMS OR INDIVIDUAL SEGMENTS ON DEMAND FOR ANY OF THOSE APPS. NOW, JOE GUY JOINS US FROM THE PASTIME PORCH, AND HE'S GOT A GREAT STORY FROM A TRAFFIC STOP.

>> WELL, HELLO. HOW ARE YOU DOING? YOU KNOW, MANY YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS A DEPUTY SHERIFF, I STOPPED A SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE FOR HAVING AN EXPIRED TAG. WHEN I APPROACHED THE DRIVER ABOUT THE REGISTRATION, HE SAID, OH, THIS CAR IS NOT MINE. WELL, I EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT HE WAS OPERATING THE VEHICLE ON A PUBLIC ROAD, SO BY LAW, HE WAS KIND OF RESPONSIBLE FOR IT. AS I'M TALKING TO HIM, I ALSO NOTICE IN THE SEAT BESIDE HIM IS AN UNLABELED BOTTLE OF PILLS. WHAT ARE THOSE, I ASKED? OH, I DON'T KNOW, THE YOUNG MAN SAID WITH A SMILE. THOSE AREN'T MINE. SO I HAD THE MAN STEP OUTSIDE OF HIS CAR. AND AS I PATTED HIM DOWN, I FELT WHAT I THOUGHT AT FIRST WAS A SMALL HANDGUN IN HIS JEANS POCKET; BUT WHAT I FOUND WAS A SMALL SLICE OF A BRICK OF COMPRESSED MARIJUANA. I THOUGHT, SURELY I HAVE HIM NOW; THIS HAD TO BE HIS. WELL, WHAT'S THIS, I ASKED? I DON'T KNOW, HE SMILED AND SAID AGAIN WITH A SHRUG. THAT'S NOT MINE. I SAID, LOOK, FRIEND, THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS YOU MIGHT DENY, BUT I'VE CLEARLY FOUND THIS ILLEGAL ITEM IN YOUR PANTS POCKET. HOW CAN THIS NOT BE YOURS? WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT, HE SAID, OH, THESE AREN'T MY PANTS. WHY, I WAS AT A BUDDY'S HOUSE OVERNIGHT, AND I JUST PICKED UP A PAIR OF PANTS THIS MORNING WHEN I WOKE UP. THEY MUST BE SOMEBODY ELSE'S. WELL, THEN I SAID, THAT'S TOO BAD. THEN I TOOK OUT MY HANDCUFFS AND I SHOWED THEM TO HIM. SEE THESE HANDCUFFS? THESE HANDCUFFS AREN'T MINE. THEY BELONG TO MCMINN COUNTY. I SAID THAT AS I PLACED THEM ON HIS WRIST AND I LED HIM BACK TO MY PATROL CAR. I SAID, SEE THIS CAR? IT ALSO BELONGS TO SOMEONE ELSE: THE CITIZENS OF MCMINN COUNTY. WHEN I PLACED HIM IN THE BACK SEAT, BEFORE I CLOSED THE DOOR, I ADDED NOW WHEN WE GET TO THE JAIL, JUST KNOW THAT'S NOT MY JAIL, EITHER. YOU KNOW, THAT YOUNG MAN, HE WASN'T SMILING ANYMORE. YOU KNOW, A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE LIKE THAT, THAT WHEN THEY ARE CAUGHT IN A SIN, WE THINK WE CAN DENY OR HIDE OUR WRONGDOINGS EVEN WHEN THE LIGHT OF TRUTH IS SHINING ON US. JESUS MENTIONS THIS ATTITUDE IN JOHN 3:19-21 WHEN HE DESCRIBES HOW THE LIGHT OF TRUTH HAS COME INTO THE WORLD, BUT MEN LOVE THE DARKNESS RATHER THAN THE LIGHT BECAUSE THEIR EVIL DEEDS WERE HIDDEN IN THE DARK; SO THEY HATE AND DENY THE LIGHT OF TRUTH. BUT THOSE WHO DO TRUTH HAVE NO WORRIES ABOUT THE LIGHT. THEY HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE. CLAIMING, OH, THAT SIN IS NOT MINE, WELL, IT DOESN'T REALLY FOOL GOD. NO ONE IS PERFECT, AND GOD IS WILLING TO SAVE US IF WE ACCEPT SALVATION AND HIS FORGIVENESS ON HIS TERMS. PROVERBS 28:13 TELLS US THAT HIDING OUR SINS WILL ALWAYS FAIL, BUT WE CAN GAIN FORGIVENESS BY SIMPLY CONFESSING THEM, WHICH IS TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM AND SEEKING GOD'S MERCY BY BEING OBEDIENT TO HIM. THE TIMELESS TEXT HAS THE TIMELESS MESSAGE OF REDEMPTION. THE QUESTION IS, WILL WE DENY IT OR WILL WE JUST ACCEPT IT? I'M JOE GUY. THANK YOU FOR VISITING.

>> RATHER THAN MAKING EXCUSES, LET'S REPENT OF SIN AND DO WHAT IT TAKES TO GET RIGHT WITH GOD. THANKS, JOE. IF YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO PODCASTS, WE NOW HAVE FOUR OF THEM AVAILABLE WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS. EVERY DAY, A NEW EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME GETS RELEASED. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO START YOUR DAY WITH A DAILY

DOSE OF GOOD NEWS. EVERY WEEK, THERE ARE NEW EPISODES OF GOOD NEWS TODAY WEEKLY AND HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION AND SOUND WORDS WITH JIM DEARMAN. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL GIVE OUR BIBLE QUESTION FROM GENESIS 8 TO ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN.

>> (SINGING)

>> NOW WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY AND TROY: WERE INSECTS AND CRAWLING BUGS SPARED IN THE GREAT FLOOD?

>> TROY, MY GOOD BROTHER.

>> YES, SIR.

>> DO YOU LIKE BUGS?

>> NOT REALLY. NOT REALLY.

>> I SUPPOSE THAT YOU DIDN'T LIKE THEM. I DON'T LIKE BUGS, EITHER. YOU COME DOWN TO LOUISIANA, I'LL SHOW YOU SOME.

>> YOU'VE GOT SOME BIG BUGS.

>> SOME INTERESTING BUGS AROUND THERE. BUT NONETHELESS, I DON'T THINK A LOT OF US LIKE BUGS, RIGHT? BUT I THINK THAT'S WHAT BRINGS US TO OUR QUESTION TODAY. I DON'T THINK THIS PERSON LIKES BUGS, EITHER.

>> OKAY.

>> THE QUESTION THAT WE HAVE IS, WHAT ABOUT INSECTS AND CRAWLING BUGS? HOW WERE THOSE SPECIES SPARED IN THE GREAT FLOOD? THEY'RE WONDERING HOW DID THEY MAKE IT ONTO THE ARK, I GUESS. AND SO THEY GAVE THE REFERENCE OF GENESIS 8:19. SO LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

>> ALL RIGHT. SO GENESIS 8:19 SAYS, EVERY BEAST, EVERY CREEPING THING, EVERY BIRD, AND WHATEVER CREEPS ON THE EARTH ACCORDING TO THEIR FAMILIES WENT ON THE ARK. AND SO I GUESS THAT MEANS THAT BUGS WENT ON THE ARK ALSO.

>> AND I GUESS THAT'S WHY WE COME TO THAT QUESTION. SOMEBODY'S PROBABLY HAVING LITTLE TERMITE ISSUES OR SOME BUG INFESTATION, AND THEY'RE LIKE, WHY DID THESE THINGS MAKE IT BEYOND THE FLOOD? THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN - BUT, YOU KNOW, THE BIBLE SAYS WHAT IT SAYS.

>> THE BIBLE SAYS WHAT IT SAYS. AND THAT'S A KEY THING IS WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT ASSUMING THINGS THAT WE DON'T REALLY KNOW. DEUTERONOMY 29:29, THE SECRET THINGS BELONG TO THE LORD. BUT YOU KNOW, IF YOU BACK UP ONE CHAPTER, IN CHAPTER 7, I MEAN, HE'S TELLING HIM TO TAKE EVERYTHING. AND HE SAYS HE SAYS EVERYTHING. NOW THERE IS A WORKING THEORY THAT JUST AS WE ALL DESCENDED FROM NOAH AND SHEM AND HIS OTHER SONS THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE EVERY SINGLE THING ON. FOR EXAMPLE, DOGS. YOU KNOW, DOGS ARE IN THE CANINE SPECIES OR FAMILY. AND

SO DID HE HAVE TO TAKE EVERY SINGLE KIND OF DOG THAT THERE WAS, OR JUST A CANINE? AND I THINK THAT MIGHT BE ALSO THE CASE WITH THE BUGS. HE ONLY TOOK A FEW BUGS; AND UNFORTUNATELY, WE GET ALL THESE OTHER BUGS OUT OF THAT.

>> YEAH, I MEAN, THE BOTTOM LINE IS YOU NEVER REALLY KNOW, RIGHT?

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> IT'S ALL UP FOR SPECULATION. BUT WE DO KNOW THAT GOD SAID THAT THEY WERE THERE AND THAT THEY MADE IT. AND WE DO KNOW THAT WE SEE THEM NOW.

>> RIGHT. AND ALSO, GOD IS ALMIGHTY. I MEAN, HE'S GOING TO BE THE ONE THAT'S GOING TO HELP THEM ON THAT ARK. HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

>> RIGHT. HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. AND IF WE BELIEVE 2ND TIMOTHY 3:16-17, IF WE BELIEVE IN THAT, THAT THIS IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD, BELIEVE IT IN ITS ENTIRETY, THEN WE CAN REST ASSURED THAT THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED IN GENESIS 8.

>> AMEN.

>> THAT WAS A GREAT ANSWER, GUYS, EVEN THOUGH I DON'T LIKE THINKING ABOUT BUGS ON A SHIP THAT I'M ON. IT'S AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM. WE'VE TALKED A LOT ABOUT DIFFERENT ANIMALS THIS WEEK. I HOPE IT'S BEEN INTERESTING TO YOU. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ALWAYS CHECK ALL RELIGIOUS TEACHING AGAINST THE WORD OF GOD TO SEE IF THESE THINGS ARE TRUE. BE LIKE THOSE BEREANS IN ACTS 17:11, AND TEST EVERYTHING YOU HEAR. IF IT'S NOT FOUND IN THE BIBLE, DON'T BELIEVE IT; IF IT'S THERE, YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT. IF YOU NEED TO CHECK US, WATCH OR LISTEN TO THE PROGRAM AGAIN, YOU CAN DO THAT. CHECK THE SCRIPTURES FOR YOURSELF. YOU CAN DO IT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, THROUGH OUR APPS, OR THROUGH OUR PODCASTS. IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION, CONTACT US. WE'D LOVE TO ANSWER IT FOR YOU. REMEMBER, WE LOVE YOU, WE'RE PRAYING FOR YOU, AND WE WANT YOU TO MAKE IT TO HEAVEN.

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY